UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
FACULTY SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Minutes

Friday, October 13th 2023
8:30 am

Attendees: **Eric Berlin, Jon Berndt Olsen, Steven D. Brewer, David Hoagland, Neal Katz, Anthony Paik, Alison Messier Michelle Trim, Ruth-Ellen Verock (minutes)**
Visitors**: none**

1. Approved: Minutes of the 15 September 2023 meeting submitted by Michelle Trim.

2. Agenda items for the 16 November 2023 Faculty Senate meeting discussed:

a. Future presentations: Faculty Senate Secretary Anthony Paik will contact Wilmore Webley and Barb Chalfonte as possible presenters to be scheduled for November/December

b. Deferred Maintenance: Secretary Paik will reach out Vice Chancellor Andy Mangels about doing a presentation on deferred maintenance.

3. **Discussion items**

a**. Meeting format for Rules and Rules-Admin**

Motion: Rules Committee will continue to meet remotely.
Passed: all in favor
Motion: Admin Rules Meetings will be remote
Passed: all in favor
Committee will explore meeting socially with possible opportunities at an upcoming event hosted by Faculty Senate Secretary Anthony Paik co-host (Reception for Senators).

b. **DACSS merger**
Discussion: Rules Committee was briefed on the proposed merger of **Data Analytics and Computational Social Science** (**DACSS**) and School of Public Policy (SPP) Following Section 2 the Senate Document 02-022A. This is the "slower track" for mergers. Faculty Senate Secretary Anthony Paik will let the DACSS people know and the provost know.

c. **Canvas migration**

Discussed ongoing Canvas issues and raised adding the issue to our upcoming meeting of Rules-Admin.

d. Strategic planning

Discussed how the Senate should be involved in strategic planning.

Discussed forming a new task force oriented towards providing guidelines related to protecting academic freedom. For example, controversial speakers on campus and or guidelines for departments areas departments putting out statements. It may be useful to have a discussion about this larger set of issues. Faculty Senate Agreed: Secretary Paik will draft ideas about a potential task force.

e**. Searches for the VC DEI Search and Ombuds and nominations for task forces**

Discussed the importance of having people who have strong scholarship and research in relationship to the task force.
Advancement on search committee Hong as one Alison Butler is willing to serve.
There are three faculty at large positions.
Marco Duarte standing in as a senator.

f**. Search and evaluation procedures**

Search and evaluation procedures: Deans want proposed search procedures for Associate Deans removed. The Rules Committee would like search procedures to include an opportunity for nominations and/or self-nominations in appointments for Associate Deans. The Rules Committee discussed removing proposed language that would allow the Provost to directly appoint faculty members on dean college searches. Bring to agenda for a vote (next meeting).

. Certificate QQ proposal (deferred)
. Medical excuses (deferred)
. Climate change and sustainability general education requirement (deferred)
. Bylaws discussion and Secretary ad hoc committee (deferred)
. Policy library (deferred)
. Wellman document (deferred)
. Strategic planning and its steering committee (deferred)
. Secretary updates (policies on medical excuses, academic honesty, required syllabus
elements, enrollment regulations, co-listing) (deferred)